

shores of the Arctic Sea. To the westward these rocks are skirted by a broad belt of Silurian rocks, which form the western shore of Lake Winnipeg, and these, again, are succeeded in a westerly direction by beds of Devonian age,—the two series forming the broad and nearly level district between Lake Winnipeg and the first range of hills. The base of these hills is also formed by Devonian rocks, from which salt-springs issue in many places, and are worked with considerable profit, although in the rudest fashion. No traces of Carboniferous, Permian, Triassic, or Jurassic rocks were detected by Mr. Hind, who, however, states that, in the sections examined by him, a portion amounting to about 400 feet, between the Devonian rocks below and the Cretaceous above, was inaccessible in consequence of its being covered by drift. The most remarkable feature in the geology of Rupert's Land is the great development of the Cretaceous series of rocks, which form the capping of the hills just mentioned as lying to the westward of Lake Winnipeg, and extend therefrom in a wide plateau, broken here and there by small hills, to the Grand Coteau du Missouri, which they form, and beyond which, in the territory of the United States, they are covered by the Tertiary beds, occupying the greater part of the valley of the Missouri River. Northward these rocks have been traced beyond the north branch of the Saskatchewan River, and their further extension is unknown. Tertiary beds, the search for which was of importance from the circumstance of the occurrence of lignite in them, both in the basin of the Missouri and that of the Upper Saskatchewan, were not met with in the region explored by the expeditions, although rolled fragments of lignite were often met with in abundance in the river-sections of recent deposits.

With these remarks we take leave of Mr. Hind's narrative, of which we hope we have said enough to indicate that it contains a great amount of highly interesting information. It is illustrated with numerous excellent woodcuts of localities, Indians, articles of dress, and fossils, and with several maps and geological sections.

*Tabular View of the Orders and Leading Families of Myriapoda, Arachnida, Crustacea, Annelida, and Entozoa.* Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, London, 1861.

The title conferred upon this little book by its publishers is hardly, to our notions, expressive of its contents; it is rather a *pictorial* than a tabular view of the Annulose division of the animal kingdom, exclusive of the Insects and Rotifera, and consists of four large mounted folding plates of characteristic forms of the classes mentioned in its title. These plates are also sold mounted on a roller and varnished, so as to form a diagrammatic illustration of the great group of Annulosa, with the omission, as above stated, of the important class of Insects, which may probably be intended to form the subject of a similar publication.

The subjects in the present work have been arranged, as stated on the last plate, by Mr. Adam White and Dr. Baird—the former taking

charge of the three plates of Arthropod forms, the latter of the single plate of Annelida and Entozoa. The classification adopted calls for little remark, although we cannot but regret that some slight confusion seems to have crept into Mr. White's arrangements. Thus in the first plate we have the order Thysanura introduced—perhaps justly, on account of its close alliance with the Myriapoda; but we do not know why the Myriapoda should be designated an Order if separated from the true Insects; nor can we justify the establishment of the separate orders Arachnida, Acaridæ, and Pycnogonida, with no indication of the class to which they may be referred. Under the class Crustacea we find the ordinary subdivisions; but even here the group of Malacostraca is denominated a subclass, whilst its equivalents the Entomostraca and Cirripedia are called divisions. These may be slight objections; but to beginners, for whose use these plates are intended, they will be sufficiently puzzling. The plate of Worms, illustrating its subject far less completely, is open to no objections of this kind. We notice, however, that *Pentastoma (Linguatula)* is placed here amongst the Entozoa, although its true place appears to be with the Mites, and that Dr. Baird still retains a family of Cysticeridæ in spite of recent researches.

The subjects have been selected with great judgment. They are for the most part, if not entirely, copied from well-known works, and the plates have been well engraved by Mr. Lowry. As companion illustrations to popular works on Natural History they will prove of great service, and we think would be rendered still more valuable to the young naturalist by the addition of two or three pages of letter-press containing a real "Tabular View" of the classes illustrated.

## PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

### ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

March 26, 1861.—Dr. J. E. Gray, V.P., in the Chair.

ON THE OPHIDIANS OF THE PROVINCE OF BAHIA, BRAZIL.

By DR. OTHO WUCHERER, CORR. MEMB.

In the present paper I propose to give a list of the Snakes of the province of Bahia which I have been able to collect during the last two years, enumerating them in the order in which they occur in the Catalogues of the British Museum, and adding such remarks as I may be enabled to make.

Of the family of *Crotalidæ* I have seen:—

1. *Craspedocephalus atrox*.
2. *C. bilineatus*.
3. *Lachesis mutus*.
4. *Crotalus horridus*.

Of these the first seems to be the most common, particularly in some districts. To judge by what I have heard of the danger of its frequent bite, and what is commonly stated concerning the number of victims of the *Fer de lance* in the West Indies, *C. atrox* is a much